

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

**1. (currently amended):** A toner comprising a binder resin and at least a colorant, wherein:

the toner has a storage modulus ( $G'$  (L1)) in a linear region and a storage modulus ( $G'$  (NL)) in a nonlinear region at 180°C, in step strain measurement of from a linear region to a nonlinear region of viscoelastic characteristics, satisfying the relationships of

$G'$  (L1)/ $G'$  (NL) is from 5 to 20, and

$G'$  (NL) is from 100 to 400 dyn/cm<sup>2</sup>; and

wherein the binder resin comprises a block polyester and an amorphous polyester; and

the toner contains a release agent in an amount of 4 parts by weight or less per 100 parts by weight of the binder resin.

**2. (canceled).**

**3. (currently amended):** An image forming system comprising:

An image-forming apparatus; and

a toner; wherein:

the image-forming apparatus comprises comprising at least:

an image carrier on which an electrostatic latent image is formed;

~~a toner according to claim 1 or 2;~~  
a developing unit which develops the electrostatic latent image on the image carrier to form a toner image by the toner;  
a transferring unit which transfers the toner image on the image carrier to a recording medium; and  
a fixing unit which fixes the toner image transferred to the recording medium by heating, wherein the fixing unit has oil-less two rollers; and  
the toner is the toner of claim 1.

**4. (currently amended):** A toner comprising a binder resin and at least a colorant, wherein:

the toner has a storage modulus ( $G' (L2)$ ) in a linear region at  $180^\circ\text{C}$ , in step strain measurement of from a nonlinear region to a linear region of viscoelastic characteristics, of from 400 to 2,000  $\text{dyn/cm}^2$ ; and

wherein the binder resin comprises a block polyester and an amorphous polyester; and  
the toner contains a release agent in an amount of 4 parts by weight or less per 100 parts by weight of the binder resin.

**5. (original):** The toner according to claim 4, wherein the toner has a ratio of the storage modulus ( $G' (L2)$ ) to the storage modulus ( $G' (NL)$ ) in a nonlinear region  $G' (L2)/G' (NL)$  at  $180^\circ\text{C}$ , in step strain measurement of from a nonlinear region to a linear region of viscoelastic characteristics, of from 3 to 8.

**6. (canceled).**

**7. (currently amended): An image forming system comprising:**

An image-forming apparatus; and

a toner; wherein:

the image-forming apparatus comprises comprising at least:

an image carrier on which an electrostatic latent image is formed;

~~a toner according to any one of claims 4 to 6;~~

a developing unit which develops the electrostatic latent image on the image carrier to form a toner image by the toner;

a transferring unit which transfers the toner image on the image carrier to a recording medium; and

a fixing unit which fixes the toner image transferred to the recording medium by heating, wherein the fixing unit has oil-less two rollers; and

the toner is the toner of claim 4 or 5.